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**Andrzej S Tarnawski, DSc, MD, PhD**

Professor, Gastroenterology Research Department, University of California Irvine.

Editor-in-Chief

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**RE: Biostatistics Review Certificate**

**Non-Native Speakers of English Editing Certificate**

**Dear Drs. Tarnawski,**

As the Guarantor of this study and manuscript, by the means of this letter, I certify the following Certifications:

**• Biostatistics Review Certificate**

The statistical analysis was performed by the Biostatistics and Clinical Research Core of the The Center for Gastrointestinal Biology and Disease (CGIBD). CGIBD is a U.S. NIH-funded collaborative GI research center at UNC Chapel Hill (UNC) originally established in 1983. (Please note, I served as faculty at UNC at the time the study was conducted).

**• Non-Native Speakers of English Editing Certificate.**

As the Guarantor of this study and manuscript, I confirm that I am a Native Speaker of English, and bilingual (Spanish).

We greatly appreciate your thoughtful consideration of our manuscript.

Douglas R. Morgan, MD, MPH, AGAF, FACP